Library

PORT OF SANDWICH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1955 OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

25 APR 56

I. STAFF

C.T. Rowland, M.R.S.I. — Port Health Inspector. (Also Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector to the Borough of Sandwich)

M.S. Harvey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. — Port Medical Officer. (Also M.O.H. East Kent United District)

Address and Telephone No. — Office - 14 Dane John, Canterbury. 4412
Home - The Gables, Stodmarsh Road, Canterbury. 3391

II. SHIPPING IN 1955

Shipping	No.	Total Reg. Tonnage	Inspections	No. with I.D.
Foreign Going	12	1,098	10	Nil
Coastwise	60	8,678	4	Nil
TOTAL	72	9,776	14	Nil

In no case was a visit by the medical officer required.

III. 19,624 tons of cargo were unloaded in the port. The origin of such traffic is mainly coastwise, but there is small vessel traffic with the Baltic and European ports. There has been no passenger traffic.

The goods carried comprise:-

Granite chips, stone and railway materials.
Timber, oil and petrol, matches, paper.
Potatoes, fruit and vegetables.
Machinery.

The tonnage represented a considerable increase on recent years and reflected the dock strike at other ports, as well as some development of the Richborough wharves.

IV. No inland traffic on the river Stour occurs.

V. WATER SUPPLY

The supply to the Town Quays is the Sandwich Borough water, frequently tested and found good. It is chlorinated.

The supply to the Richborough Wharves is from the Ramsgate Borough mains, metered into Sandwich and is frequently tested and found good. It is also chlorinated.

VI. The Port Medical Officer maintains a list of infected ports. H.M. Customs are stationed at Ramsgate and receive their information from the Ramsgate Port M.O. As likely as not H.M. Customs would bring a ship flying Q to the Ramsgate station, but know that they can call on the Sandwich Port M.O. if needed. Access to the Roads is easier through Ramsgate than from Sandwich, but the Harbour Master's launch is available.

In the event of a case arising that calls for isolation of the ship away from its moorings, a suitable mooring is now identified at the outer limit of the Richborough (Dorman Long) Wharf. There are no standing directions in the matter.

Hospital Accommodation

(a) Haine Infectious Diseases Hospital, Ramsgate.

(b) Surveillance cards are available for use.

(c) Steam Disinfector - Haine Hospital.
Personal Cleansing - on board ship or at Deal Cleansing Station.
Ships - gaseous followed by cleaning down.

VII. SMALLPOX

Hospital - Rivers Hospital, Long Reach, Dartford.
Ambulance - Canterbury Joint Ambulance Service - Tel. Canterbury 5001
Consultant - Dr. Rex Fletcher.
Laboratory - Central P.H. Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London.
Telephone Colindale 7041.

VIII. Clinics and in-patient facilities for treatment of Venereal Diseases are centred on:-

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.	-	Tuesdays and Fridays Males 3-4 p.m. Females 2-3 p.m.
General Hospital, Margate	-	Tuesdays and Fridays Males 11-12 noon Females 10-11 a.m.
Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover	-	Mondays and Thursdays. Males 6-7 p.m. Females 5-6 p.m.
General Hospital, Ashford.	-	Mondays and Wednesdays. Males 11 - 12 noon Females 10 - 11 a.m.

This information is available at the Guildhall, Sandwich on enquiry.

IX. No cases of notifiable or other infectious diseases were known to have occurred on ships in the district during the year.

X and XI. No cases of malaria or plague were known or suspected in the district.

XII. Ships from foreign ports are inspected for rat infestation on arrival and the Rat certificate is inspected.

The Public Health Laboratory, Maidstone, would receive rats for examination for plague, if any suspicions arose.

The port is not approved for deratisation.

XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCE

14 inspections were made to ships in the port during the year. No statutory or other notices were served.

XIV. Some gathering of molluscs is believed to occur on the flats of Sandwich Bay below highwater.

XV. The port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

M. S. Harvey
Port M.O